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UWI

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State of Illinois

Illinois Department of
Commerce and Economic Opportunity



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UWI

URBAN WEATHERIZATION INITIATIVE

**Create jobs in your community
with help from the State of Illinois!**

**Help homeowners save
money on utility bills!**

**Make homes
more energy efficient!**



Improve the environment!



What is the Illinois Urban Weatherization Initiative?

The Urban Weatherization Initiative (UWI) is the nation's first state-funded weatherization program and one of the largest job creation initiatives ever for urban communities in Illinois. UWI is a new state program that creates green jobs and trains people for those new jobs right here in Illinois' urban communities. UWI also provides funding for those trained specialists to make homes more energy-efficient, helping homeowners save on energy costs.

Everyone wins with UWI—it creates opportunity for homeowners, job-seekers, local economies and the environment.

UWI is administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Urban Assistance. Funding for the UWI initiative comes from the Build Illinois Bond Fund and is expected to grow significantly over the next few years.



What are the UWI's goals?

1. Create jobs for Illinois residents
2. Increase skills and career opportunities for the under/unemployed
3. Stimulate local economies by increasing the number of local green suppliers and service-providers
4. Improve energy-efficiency and help the environment
5. Lower utility bills and home energy costs

UWI Needs Partners to Get the Job Done!!!

UWI needs partners to train home-energy auditors and weatherization specialists. Your public, private or non-profit group may be eligible to become a UWI partner with the State of Illinois if your organization can:

- Provide training for quality energy auditors and weatherization specialists
- Use effective local employment strategies to identify, support and retain program participants

Partnerships between qualified applicants are strongly encouraged. Collaborations may include:

- Local weatherization agencies
- Educational institutions
- Workforce stakeholders
- Other community organizations

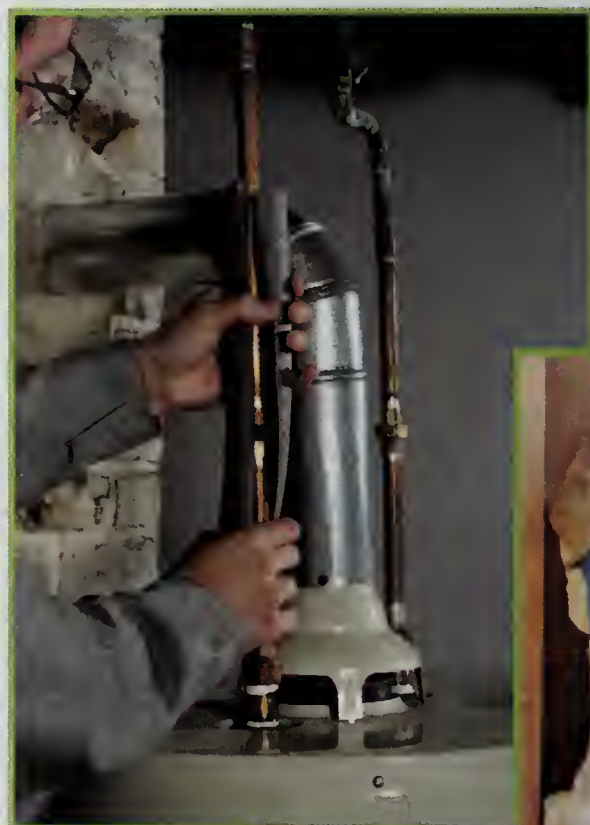
Hands-on energy auditor and weatherization training must be consistent with the U.S. Department of Energy standards. Successful trainees will receive BPI or RESNET (HERS) certificates of completion upon attainment of skills.





What skills need to be offered to trainees?

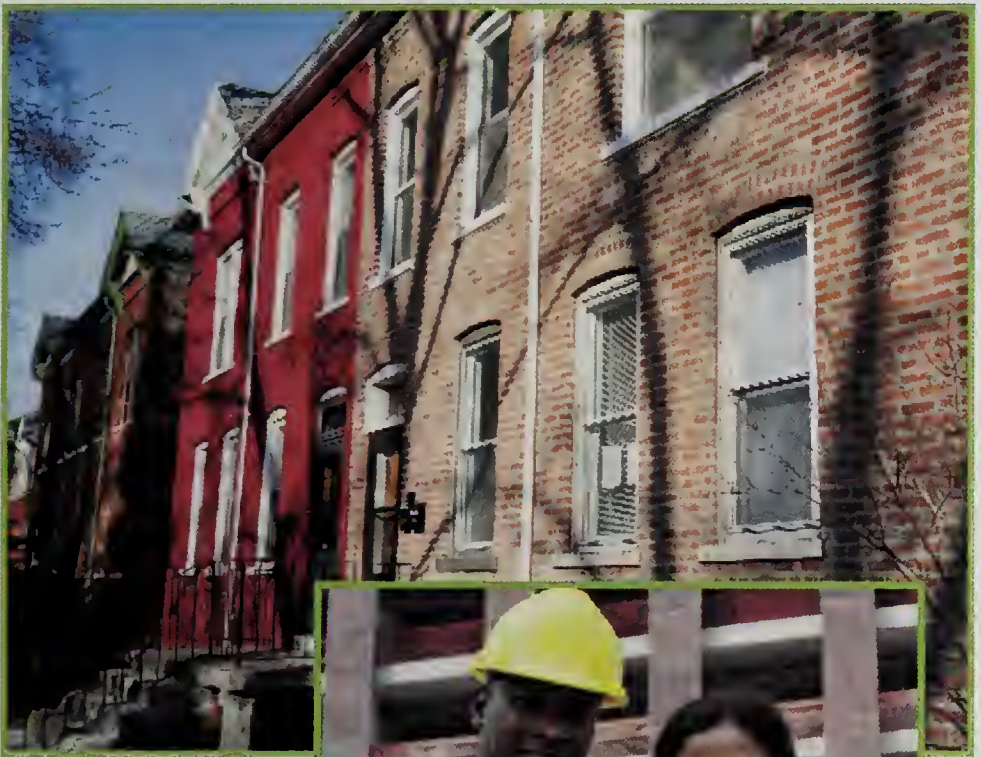
- Energy auditing
- Repair or replacement of inefficient heating or cooling units
- Repair or replacement of water heaters
- Address air infiltration issues (examples include weather stripping, caulking, window and/or door replacement)
- Pipe, duct, wall, attic insulation

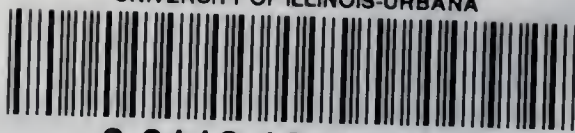


What Communities Are Eligible?

The UWI program is for people who live in disadvantaged communities across Illinois. This includes urban areas with:

- At least twenty percent of residents living in poverty
- High concentration of families with income less than 60 percent of the area's median income
- Homeowners with the highest utility bills in relation to income





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Find out more!

- Grants are given to eligible organizations on a competitive basis.
- Initial communities targeted for training include Chicago-Metro, East St. Louis, Kankakee, Peoria and Rockford. More communities will be included in future rounds of funding.
- More information about RFQ and RFA schedules is at www.ildceo.net/urbanweatherization.



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